

cancelled thereby rendering the anticipation rejection moot. This reference has been carefully reviewed but is not believed to show or suggest Applicant's claimed invention in any manner. Reconsideration and allowance of claim 1 is therefore respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Claim 1 as amended requires a light guide having a light reflective surface, a light discharge surface opposite the light reflective surface and parallel to the light reflective surface, a front side surface, a rear side surface, and an LED opposite front side surface of the light guide at a central position of the front side surface, a plurality of triangular grooves continuously formed in the light reflection surface from end to end, and a diffusion and reflection plate is disposed opposite the rear side surface of the light guide so that the light discharged from the rear side surface is diffused and reflected.

The Redmond reference teaches that the front side angle should be selected so that light entering the lighting panel through end surface 19 is reflected along the panel toward the end surface 20 by facets 23. More specifically, " . . . the facets 23 and 24 are shaped so that light entering the lighting panel through end surface 20 by facets 23. Light reflected back into the lighting panel at end 20 strikes the facets 24 and is either specularly reflected upward through

planar major surface 17 or transmitted further along the lighting panel." ('862 Specification, column 3, lines 11-17). This is contrary to the Examiner's assertion that ". . . the light guide (13) will have a section of transmitted light being reflected by the front side (23) of each groove towards the display panel (12)" (Office Action dated September 19, 2001, page 4). Thus, the only light exiting from the Redmond lighting panel has all been reflected from panel 28 and consequently, the display assembly is not illuminated by a mixture of primary and secondary light as by claim 1.

Moreover, claim 1 further requires a single LED disposed at a central position of the front side surface of the light guide. Redmond does not show or disclose a single LED, rather, it requires a pair of incandescent lamps 47 as the light source. For these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is neither anticipated by Redmond and is therefore allowable.

The prior art references made of record by the Examiner have each been considered but are not believed to obviate against the allowability of the claim 1 as amended. It is noted that none of these references have been specifically applied by the Examiner against any of the original claims.

Each issue raised in the Office Action dated September

19, 2001, has been addressed and it is believed that claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Wherefore, reconsideration and allowance of this claim is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph between page 5, line 20 and page 6, line 5, with the following:

-- Light beams emitted from the light source 3 disposed adjacent the front side surface 1f enter the light guide 1. Since the angle of elevation of the front side 1d is small ($90^\circ - \theta_1$), most of light reflected from the front side 1d is re-reflected from the inside surface of the discharge surface 1b, and a small quantity of light discharges from the discharge surface 1b as primary light. Hence, most of light beams discharge from the rear side surface 1g and are diffused and reflected from the diffusion and reflection plate 5. The reflected light enters the light guide 1 from the rear side surface 1g. The re-entered light is reflected from the rear side 1e. Since the angle of elevation of the rear side 1e is about 45° ($90^\circ - [\theta_1] \theta_2$), the light discharges from the discharge surface 1b at right angle as secondary light.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Twice Amended) An illuminating device for a display comprising:

a display panel;

a light guide having a light reflection surface, a light discharge surface opposite to the light reflection surface and

parallel to the light reflection surface, a front side surface, and a rear side surface, and disposed under the display panel so that the light discharge surface opposes to the display panel;

an LED [a light source] provided to oppose to the front side surface of the light guide at a central position of the front side surface;

a plurality of triangular grooves continuously formed in the light reflection surface from end to end,

each of the triangular grooves comprising a front side having a first angle with respect to a line perpendicular to the light discharge surface and a rear side having a second angle with respect to a line perpendicular to the light discharge surface which is smaller than the first angle; and,

a diffusion and reflection plate disposed to oppose to the rear side surface of the light guide so that the light discharge from the rear side surface is diffused and reflected, wherein

the first angle and the second angle are selected so that the display panel is illuminated by a mixture of primary light reflected from the front side and secondary light reflected from the rear side.